GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:283
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2015
Gender Disparity
Raghavan Shri M. K.;Singh Shri Hukum

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of incidents of exploitation, harassment and discrimination meted to women/girls in various fields and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether World Economic Forum"s Global Gender Gap Report, 2015 and United Nation"s Report titled 'The World"s Women Trends 2015' have also highlighted gender disparity and pointed out downfall in India"s ranking and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the legislative action drawn to stop exploitation/harassment of women and prevent discrimination and gender disparity; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to overcome gender disparity and provide equal status to women in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 283 FOR 18.12.2015 BY SHRI HUKUM SINGH AND SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN REGARDING GENDER DISPARITY

(a) Yes Madam. As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, a total of 244270, 309546 and 3,37,922 cases were reported in the country under crime against women which include attempt to commit rape, kidnapping & abduction of women, cases under Protection of women from domestic violence Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, Indecent Representation of Women Act etc. during 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively.
(b) No, Madam. According to the Global Gender Gap Report, 2015 issued by the World Economic Forum, out of a total of 145 countries, India has been over all ranked 108 in the Global Gender Gap Index improving from its 114th position in 2014. However, United Nation"s Report titled 'The World"s Women Trends 2015' highlighted that the India has the lowest sex ratio in under-5 mortality with a ratio of 93 that is 93 boys die before age 5 for 100 girls that die by that age.
(c) & (d) Ending gender based inequities, discrimination and violence faced by girls and women in the country is of utmost priority for the Government. The Government of India has already enacted a number of legislations to address gender based discrimination. These include the Criminal Amendment Act,2013, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961;Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act,2006 (PCMA), Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and 73rd − 74th Amendment of the Constitution mandating 33% reservation for women in the local governance. The Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 has been enacted making punishment more stringent for offences like rape

Apart from the above, Ministry of Women and Child Development is also implementing Schemes of One Stop Centre to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence and Scheme for Universalisation of Women Helpline intended to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence. Further, to address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme has been initiated with the objectives to empowering the girl child and enabling her education through a mass campaign and focussed intervention in 100 critical districts with low CSR.

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